

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 10 and 12 are allowable and claims 1-7, 13-16, and 18-21 are allowed.

Claims 1-4 and 7-21 have been amended, claims 5 and 6 cancelled, and claims 22 and 23 newly added to depend from claims 9 and 11, respectively. The features of the amended claims are supported by the original claims.

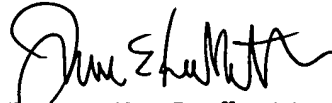
Claims 8, 9, 11, and 17 were rejected, under 35 USC §102(e), as being anticipated by Rashid-Farrokhi et al. (US 6,400,780).

Claim 8 has been amended to depend from allowed claim 1, and claim 17 has been amended to depend from allowed claim 7. Each of claims 9 and 11, as well as claims 8 and 17, has been amended to recite allowable subject matter, as identified in section 4 of the Office Action. Claims 22 and 23 also recite allowable subject matter identified in section 4 of the Office Action. Therefore, allowance of claims 8, 9, 11, 17, 22, and 23 is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732

Date: September 2, 2004
JEL/DWW/att

Attorney Docket No. JEL 31212 PCT
STEVENS DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 850
P.O. Box 34387
Washington, D.C. 20043-4387
Telephone: (202) 785-0100
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200